COALVILLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR,

FOR THE YEAR 1949.

AUGUST, 1950.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
COALVILLE.

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URBAN DISTRICT OF COALVILLE.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health (part time):

ANDREW HAMILTON, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

B.GREENWOOD. Cert.R.S.I., Inspector of Meat etc.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

N.A.SHUTES, A.R.S.I.,

R.E.MOORE, Cert.R.S.I.and S.I.J.B.,

Clerk:

G.ROBINSON.

Public Health Dept.,
Municipal Offices,
COALVILLE.

To the Coalville Urban District Council.

Mr.Chairman and members of the Council

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Urban district for the year 1949.

The report follows the instructions contained in Circular 2/50 dated 25.1.50 from the Ministry of Health.

Its preparation and presentation have been delayed by the death of Mr.Greenwood, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, whose personal preparation of Sections C.D.and E had reached a fairly advanced stage. His duties devolved upon Mr. Shutes, who, so far as this report was concerned, had more or less to start at the beginning, particularly where required figures had not reached the final stage. In such instances, much work had to be done in checking and re-checking.

I wish to thank all the officers of my department for their help during the year and particularly Mr. Shutes for completing the work already undertaken by Mr. Greenwood in the compilation of this report. I have already expressed my appreciation of the very considerable worth of the late Chief Sanitary Inspector, who had been an officer of this Authority since 1921, and with whom I had worked in the closest co-operation since 1926. I wish also to thank the Surveyor and Water Engineer for information supplied respecting public water supplies, sewerage and public cleansing.

I am also conscious of the consideration and courtesy extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Council for which I once more express my appreciation and thanks.

Your obedient servant,

ANDREW HAMILTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	6,453.
Population.(1931 census).	21,880.
Population.(est.middle 1949).	25,570.
Number of inhabited houses (end 1949).	6,974.
Rateable value.	£112,640.
Product of 1d rate.	£431.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate.	242	212	454
Illegitimate.	7	2	9
Total.	249	214	463

Birth Rate per 1000 estimated population mid. 1949 - 18.1

Still Births.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate.	5	5	10
Illegitimate.	1	1	2
Total.	6	6	12

Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births 25.3

Deaths.

M.	F.	Total.
156	129	285

Death Rate per 1000 estimated population mid.1949 - 11.1

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

		Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal Sepsis.	0	0
Other maternal causes.	1	2

Death rate of infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1000 live births.	38.8
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births.	37
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.	111

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	37
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).	0

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Services.

Laboratory facilities are available at both the Public Health Laboratory, Groby Road, Leicester, and the County Council's laboratory, Peacock Lane, Leicester. A gradual change-over has taken place, and many examinations which were formerly all carried out at the County Laboratory are now undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory. The latter is also responsible for all special laboratory investigations in connection with such items as infectious disease or food poisoning outbreaks. Routine samples of milk for examination for tuberculosis are also dealt with by them.

During 1949, the County Council's laboratory have undertaken the following examinations for your authority -

Water samples	1
Milk "	152
Ice Cream "	43

Examinations carried out by the Public Health laboratory were:-

Throat and Nose Swabs.	36
Faeces and Urine.	3
Blood,	4
Sputum.	10
Ice-Cream.	12
Milk for Tuberculosis.	58
Water.	2
Misc.	3

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

The public water supply for the area is obtained from the new red sandstone measures overlying the coal measures, water being pumped from boreholes and pit shafts sunk into and through these measures respectively. These public supplies are situated at Broom-Leys pumping station, Holly Hayes pumping station, Whitwick Colliery and Ellistown Colliery, and all water from these sources is chlorinated, the Ellistown and Whitwick Colliery supplies also being filtered

The average daily output from these sources during the year was -

Broom Leys.	228,000 galls.
Holly Hayes.	118,000 galls.
Whitwick and Ellistown Collieries.	414,000 galls.

No supplies were necessary from the Ashby Rural District Council's Hoo Ash reservoir during the year.

The total quantity of water pumped from the various sources during the year was 277,434,000 gallons, an increase of 10,146,000 gallons over 1948.

30,813,000 gallons were supplied in bulk to Market Bosworth Rural District Council, an increase of 3,813,000 gallons over the 1948 figure.

Daily consumption for the Urban area for all purposes averaged 26.4 gallons per head of the estimated population. No restrictions in supply were necessary during the year.

The Council's scheme for the extension and development of the existing supplies was approved by the Ministry of Health in June, the delivery of pipes and fittings being awaited. This scheme involves:-

a. the full development of the Holly Hayes pumping station;

b. the construction of a new service reservoir;

c. the laying of new rising and distribution mains, and the extension to new areas of the latter; and

d. the centralisation of sterilisation plant at Forest Rock reservoir.

The required standard of purity for a public water supply was maintained during 1949. 12 samples of raw (untreated) water and 8 of treated water going into supply were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, with the following results -

Whitwick Colliery.		Ellistown Colliery.		Holly Hayes.		Broom-Leys Pumping Station.		Distribution points in the area.
Raw.	Treat.	Raw.	Treat.	Raw.	Treat.	Raw.	Treat.	
2-	1-	2- 2+	2-	3-	-	3-	-	5-

4 samples of "raw" water, one from each of the four sources of supply, were submitted to Dr.B.Dyer and Partners for examination during the year. Chemically, the samples were reported as being of satisfactory purity and free from metallic contamination the degrees of hardness before boiling being Broom-Leys 45, Holly Hayes 22$\frac{1}{2}$ Whitwick Colliery 64$\frac{1}{2}$ and Ellistown Colliery 59$\frac{1}{2}$, and after boiling 19, 7, 38 and 33$\frac{1}{2}$ respectively.

12 samples of raw water were submitted to the Leicestershire County Laboratory for Bacteriological examination with the following results:- 2 samples from Whitwick, 3 from Holly Hayes, 3 from Broom Leys, and 5 from Distribution points were reported as satisfactory, but two samples from Ellistown were satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory containing B. Coli in 10 c.c's.

6715 houses in the area have an internal water supply direct from the public mains, and 108 houses are supplied from standpipes.

122 houses, including some outlying farms, have no water supply from public sources, most of these being outside the range of existing water mains.

14 samples of water from private wells were submitted for examination during the year, only 4 of these being reported as of satisfactorily quality. The other ten samples shewed the wells concerned to be polluted to a greater or less extent and in all cases notices were served requiring the provision of a wholesome water supply.

7 wells were closed during the year and the 25 houses concerned supplied from the public water mains. One other well was closed when the two houses concerned were demolished.

350 yards of new 4" water mains were laid during the year to the Henson's Lane and Greenhill Housing Sites and 30 yards of 4" main as extension in Bakewell Street for Towle's Ltd. new factory.

2. DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

During the year a 7" rising main sewer has been laid in Hermitage Rd and a Pumping Station constructed. The work has been completed except for the installation of the pumps. This work was made necessary by mining subsidence.

The re-designed scheme for Richmond Road and Ibstock Road has been completed during the year, with outfall to the Market Bosworth R.D.C. main outfall sewer at Ibstock.

Tenders have been accepted for the relaying of the sewers in Church Lane and Ravenstone Road, which have been damaged by Mining Subsidence.

The schemes for draining the Battleflat and Melbourne Road areas remain in abeyance, the latter on account of the high cost per house.

Mining subsidence has been responsible for the fracturing of the main outfall sewer near Hermitage Brickworks and 230 yards of 12" concrete tubes were laid as an emergency measure in August at a cost of £500.

Mining subsidence has also aggravated the conditions on the North High Level Outfall Sewer - particularly the length which runs through Wentworth Road. A scheme for the re-laying of 700 yards of this sewer at a cost of £4,100 has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health. An informal inquiry has been held and authority to commence work is still awaited.

During the year the investigations of defects, drainage and redrainage works have necessitated 221 inspections, with 120 revisits. Many of the defects have been caused by mining subsidence. 16 properties have been connected to the public sewers after the abolition of 7 cesspools. The sewer extensions in Bardon Road, Hall Lane and Richmond Road have afforded better facilities in these areas for many properties which are now drained to cesspools. All owners of the houses concerned have been requested to connect their properties to the new sewers. Some properties in the Thringstone area are still connected to the old sewerage system or to ditch outfalls and these are being dealt with as the reconditioning of the properties concerned becomes possible.

3. CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The closet accommodation in the Urban area at the end of 1949 was as follows -

7456 - water closets.
139 - privies in sewered areas.
42 - privies in areas at present unsewered.
88 - pails in sewered areas.
137 - pails in areas at present unsewered.
75 - middens in sewered areas.
26 - middens in areas at present unsewered.
10 - dry ashpits.
5 - chemical closets in sewered areas.
8 - chemical closets in areas at present unsewered.

Now that the position as regards labour and the supply of building materials is easier, it has been possible to give a little more attention to the conversion of privies, although progress, even now, is far from being satisfactory and has to wait on more important building works. During the year 18 privies (fixed receptacles) and 26 pail closets were abolished One house with a privy was closed and 46 W.Cs were provided to take the place of these conveniences, 17 were provided in connection with factories and 189 in connection with new housing.

4. PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE.

Public cleansing and scavenging are under the control of your Surveyor, these services being provided for the whole of the area. 3 Karrier Bantams and 2 S. and D. freighters are employed for this purpose in addition to a Bedford lorry for the collection of salvage.

A weekly collection of house refuse has been maintained during 1949 with a regular collection of nightsoil - weekly for pail closets and 4 weekly for middens. House refuse is disposed of by "controlled" tipping, the three tips being situated at Hugglescote, Whitwick and Ashby Road, Coalville. The Whitwick site was used only occasionally during the year and the Ashby Road site was not used.

Nightsoil is tipped on agricultural land for immediate disposal by farmers to whom it is supplied.

The collection of waste paper and other items of salvage is carried out as part of the cleansing services and at the same time as refuse collection, but special collections are made from shops factories etc. as necessary.

The collection and disposal of trade refuse is also carried out by your Council In the case of properties with a rateable value of £75 or under, 1 free bin is allowed per week, and for properties over £75 rateable value, 2 free bins per week. All additional bins are charged at 2d each, cartloads 2/6d and motor lorry loads 5/-

The cleansing of cesspools is not undertaken by your Council except at the request of owners and on payment of the expenses incurred. In some cases these cesspools are dealt with by portable petrol pump and tank cart, and in others a vehicle specially designed for the purpose is loaned from a neighbouring authority.

The amount of refuse collected and disposed of during the year was -

Dustbin refuse.	14032.tons.
Dry ashpit refuse and ashes in bulk.	17½ "
Midden and pail refuse.	1282½ "
Market refuse.	131 "

and the numbers of the various refuse receptacles in use at the end of 1949 were -

Dustbins.	7500
Dry ashpits.	3
Middens.	103

5. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The particulars given below are for all purposes, including those given elswhere in this report, with the exception of rodent extermination.

Total number of	complaints received.	173
"	inspections.	1509
"	re-visits.	707
"	notices served:-	
	(a) formal.	28
	(b) informal.	328
"	notices complied with:-	
	(a) formal.	53
	(b) informal.	253
"	Summonses issued	3
"	Summonses issued and withdrawn.	1
"	Work done on default.	3

Inspections in connection with:-		Re-visits.
Dwelling houses and overcrowding.	436	543
Verminous and dirty houses.	20	18
Water supplies.	35	17
Drainage works.	221	120
Tents, Vans and Sheds.	30	3
Factories.	140	43
Outworkers.	216	-
Slaughterhouses.	42	-
Fried Fish shops.	39	13
Bakehouses.	26	1
Other Food premises.	626	73
Meat and other foods.	1099	-
Dairies and cowsheds.	122	35
Keeping of animals.	244	36
Refuse collection and disposal.	62	27
*Rats and mice destruction.	4	-
Schools.	7	2
Miscellaneous.	366	91
	3735	1022

*Full-time ratcatcher employed, whose inspections and visits are not included in this report.

Additional work was carried out as under:-

Houses disinfected.	92
Lots of bedding etc.disinfected.	3
Lots of bedding etc.destroyed.	4
Houses disinfested of vermin.	11
Milk samples for T.B.Examination.	58
Ice Cream samples.	58
Water samples by Sanitary Inspector.	15
Houses measured (Housing Act).	59
Smoke Observations.	20
Milk samples for Bacteriological examination	74
Milk samples for Methylene Blue and Phos.test.	78

The number of notices served during the year, together with figures shewing the number complied with, are shewn in the following tables.

PRELIMINARY.	Housing.	Others.
Outstanding on 1st January	63	79
Issued during year.	104	224
Complied with during year.	91	183
Statutory action necessary.	31	19
Outstanding on 31st December.	45	101

STATUTORY.	Housing.	Others.
Outstanding on 1st January.	43	23
Issued during year.	31	19
Complied with during year.	31	22
Outstanding on 31st December.	43	20

It will be seen that the number of notices remaining uncomplied with at the year end is still fairly considerable, even after allowance for those in which the time limit had not expired on the 31st December. The hardening in the attitude of property owners towards the execution of repairs continues, and this is having its effect both on the speed and the willingness of compliance with notices.

Regulated Buildings.

(a) Common Lodging Houses.

There are two of these, both situated at the City of Dan, Whitwick, both accommodating male lodgers only, and both in the same ownership. They have a total capacity of 34 beds, the lodgers now being mainly "regulars" and employed at local factories, mines, and farms. There are very few casuals.

Both houses are very old, poorly adapted for their present use (Having originally been dwelling houses) and in only fair condition structurally. They are situated in an area which is ripe for clearance, and if progress in this direction is possible in the near future, some consideration will have to be given to the provision of alternative accommodation for these "lodgers". Whether this will best be done by private ownership or whether provision should be made by the local authority will be a matter primarily for your decision and may well be considered in future housing proposals.

8595 "lodger nights" were recorded during the year, an average of 23.5 lodgers per night, all males of full age. The figure for 1948 was 8604. There were no cases of infectious disease reported during the year at either house.

(b) Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.

There are no camping sites, in the generally accepted sense of the term, in the area, the only sites licensed being used for single vans or sheds for permanent or semi-permanent occupation.

Camping on unlicensed and completely unsuitable sites has again occurred during the year and vigilance is necessary to enable us to deal with offenders before serious nuisance is caused. These offenders are generally hawkers. The difficulties of control in these cases are increased by the absence of any suitable licensed site in the area to which all these van owners could be directed, and a recommendation has been made to you, and is under consideration, that a local-authority-owned site should be provided for this purpose.

Two sheds and 3 caravans were in permanent occupation throughout the whole year in addition to one caravan occupied during the latter part of the year.

30 inspections, with 3 revisits were made during 1949.

(c) Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades in the area, but 22 fried fish and chip premises are recorded, and 39 inspections, with 13 revisits were made during the year.

Informal notice was issued in one case, involving the provision of a proper preparation room, storage room, ventilation of shop, and provision of proper receptacles for waste materials, in a newly opened business.

(d) Houses let in lodgings.)
)- There are none of these in the area.
(e) Canal Boats.)

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools in the area for public use. The Council's swimming baths were open to the public from 7 May to 1st October 1949.

Daily tests of the water for chlorine residual and alkalinity were made, and bacteriological examinations were satisfactory.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the schools in the area is generally satisfactory, with the exception of those few cases where the school buildings themselves are of unsatisfactory type and construction and which are to be dealt with under the new educational scheme.

One school at Standard Hill, still has conservancy type closet accommodation, It was hoped that this school could have been dealt with under the suggested sewer extension scheme for the Melbourne Road area but this scheme has now been shelved as being too costly. The school at Thringstone has now been provided with a water supply and 8 W.Cs have replaced the 8 pail closets, which have been abolished.

It was not necessary to resort to school closure on account of infectious disease during the year, nor was school disinfection necessary.

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

The following inspections were made under this Act during the year -

Factories.	140	with	43	revisits.
Bakehouses.	26	"	1	"
Outworkers.	216	"	-	"

The undermentioned tables are similar to those supplied to the Ministry of Labour and National Service and give details of inspections of factories and of defects found.

TABLE 1. Premises.	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Prosecutions
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,and 6,are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	17	20	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	95	132	7	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority(excluding out-workers'premises.	14	31	6	-
Total	126	183	14	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

TABLE 2. Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found. Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness.(S1)					
Overcrowding (S2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	2	1			
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) insufficient.	1	1			
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	12	8		1	
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1			
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	1		1		
TOTAL.	17	11	1	1	

The figures in the first column of Table 1 include 9 factory bakehouses and 2 bakehouses without mechanical power.

The table shewn hereunder relates to outworkers and is a copy of that submitted to the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Nature of Work.		Section 110			Section 111		
		No of outworkers in August list required by Sect 110(I)(c)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing Apparel	Making Etc.	273	6	-	-	-	-
	Cleaning and washing.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets.		2	-	-	-	-	-
Carding of Buttons etc.		9	1	-	-	-	-
Stuffed Toys.		13	-	-	-	-	-
Total.		297	7	-	-	-	-

The amount of home work given out by factories is fairly considerable, due primarily to the shortage of full-time labour at the factories themselves. Most of the outwork carried out in this area is received from factories outside the Urban area and consists mainly of machine and hand knitting of gloves and hosiery, linking, the repair and finishing of hosiery, and making (by hand) of infants' wear.

Some difficulty is still experienced in obtaining the twice-yearly lists of outworkers from factories employing them. Reminders are sent by post but the same trouble arises year after year. Seven cases are reported this year, three from within the District and four from outside, whose lists should first have been submitted to the local authorities in whose areas the factories are situated. In these cases nothing could be done by us except the sending of a notification to the authorities concerned, whose responsibility it is to take any action for non-compliance. the three defaulters within the area submitted lists on the receipt of letters from this Department.

Two cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during the year in the homes of outworkers. Completed articles and unused materials were taken away, disinfected, and returned to the factories. The outworkers and factory owners were informed that no more outwork should be done at the premises concerned until they were disinfected.

216 visits of inspection were made to outworkers' homes during the year, but in no case was work found to be carried out in unwholesome premises.

Keeping of Animals.

The wartime position as regards the relaxation of byelaws respecting domestic pig-keeping is still maintained, and this important aspect of domestic economony shows no sign of any waning interest, although the "tightening-up" of the Ministry of Food's regulations as to licences to slaughter has apparently had some effect in some directions.

A large number of the structures are unsuitable for permanent use, although many improvements are being obtained even in these. For new buildings of a permanent character, owners are required to submit plans and are requested to comply with all the requirements which would have been compulsory under the Byelaws.

244 inspections of pigstyes and stables were made during the year, with 36 revisits.

11 informal and 3 statutory notices were served during the year, 10 to abate nuisance in connection with pigkeeping, and one with regard to a cow shed. 9 of these Informal notices regarding piggeries, and that regarding the cowshed were complied with, as were 2 of the statutory notices, the third being served on the 28th December.

Rodent destruction.

A full time ratcatcher is employed by your Authority under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and the district is systematically inspected for infestations. Prebaiting with sausage rusk, or bread mash and poisoning with zinc phosphide and arsenic; gassing; and the use of dogs and ferrets are methods which are all employed in varying circumstances. No charge is made for dealing with infestations arising at private dwelling houses, but in the case of business premises a charge of 3/6d per hour is made to cover labour and all materials used. Annual contracts, of varying amounts, were in operation during the year with 12 industrial concerns in the area, the service given being a minimum of four complete maintenance treatments annually.

Your authority's sewage farms, refuse tips, and Highways Depot, and the banks of streams and brookcourses in the area receive regular attention.

During Feb 1949 a test baiting of 90 manholes in various parts of the Urban area was made in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and in March this was followed by routine maintenance treatment of public sewers, pre-bait of sausage rusk and poison bait of sausage rusk and zinc phosphide being introduced at 111 manholes in areas where infestation had been shown by the test baiting. Surface properties in the vicinity of infested sections of sewer were visited during the period of sewer treatment and any necessary attention given.

An Exhibition and film show on Pest Control was arranged by your officers, in conjunction with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, local school children attending during the afternoon performances and adults at the evening performances.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

There has been a slight but general improvement in work on repairs to, and reconditinning of, house property during the year, but owners are still reluctant to have much work done due to the high costs, as compared with 1939 figures, and the fact that most rents are still kept at the 1939 level.

Housing inspections have again been confined largely to repair items of urgency and to the maintenance of weatherproof conditions, although it has been possible to commence more extensive repairs and reconditioning in a number of cases. 317 houses were inspected for defects during the year under the Public Health and Housing Acts, and 541 revisits to these houses, and to some recorded previously, were made. This latter figure reflects the reluctance of many owners to commence repairs, the time "lag" involved, and the increased visits necessary.

Of the houses inspected 23 were found to be unfit for habitation and were recorded for future action. 149 houses were found to be "not in all respects fit for habitation" and needing repair or reconditioning, and 101 others were dealt with under the Public Health Acts.

223 houses were repaired as a result of informal action only, and 31 after the service of statutory notices.

The housing shortage in the area still remains acute and there has naturally been great reluctance to take any action which would retard the process of overtaking arrears in this respect. Nevertheless, after serious and prolonged consideration by your Authority it was felt that the condition of certain properties in the district was such as to call for action under sections 11 - 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 and during the year Demolition Orders were made by you in respect of 4 houses. The occupants of one house were re-housed by your authority.

There were at the commencement of 1949, 28 recorded cases of overcrowding in the Urban Area, and 7 new cases were recorded during the year. These figures do not represent the the true position, as I have already reported to you. No complete housing survey has been carried out since 1937 and if the results of the survey of the 539 houses controlled by your authority, and made in 1944 are any indication, the true number of cases of overcrowding in the whole area must be considerably in excess of those recorded in the office, and which come to light during routine inspection. 6 cases of overcrowding were relieved during the year, leaving 29 dwellings, involving 43 families, and 256 persons, overcrowded at the close of the year.

18 houses were in use during the year, under requisitioning powers for housing families inadequately housed, in addition to the old Dispensary at Bakewell Street (owned by the County Council)where three families were accommodated, this was converted into three permanent dwellings the work being completed during July. Of the requisitioned houses, 6 are subjects of Demolition or Clearance Orders.

At the end of 1949 the number of applicants for Council Houses was 685, of which 127 applications were from householders whose present accommodation appeared to be adequate for their present needs.

At the close of the year 262 post-war houses had been completed by your authority (including 50 pre-fabricated houses by the Ministry of Works), 48 by the East Midland Housing Association, and 101 by Private enterprise.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

The table shews the numbers of cowkeepers and dairymen registered at 31st December 1949 and the number of inspections made.

COWKEEPERS. (to September 30th 1949)

No on Register at September 30th 1949	No of Inspections during 1949	No. of Contraventions.			
		Outstanding from Previous year.	Found during year.	Remd. during year.	Outstanding on 30th Sept.1949.
49	68 22 revisits	4	7	9	2

DAIRYMEN OR PURVEYORS OF MILK
(Other than Cowkeepers).

No on Register at Dec.1949.	No of Inspections during 1949	No of Contraventions.			
		Outstanding from previous year.	Found during year.	Remd. during year.	Outstanding on 31st Dec. 1949
47 including 13 with premises out-side the area.	44 13 revisits.	1	7	7	1

TOTAL CONTRAVENTIONS.

	Outstanding from previous year.	Found during year.	Remedied during year.	Outstanding on 30th Sept. 1949.
Cleansing.	1	6	7	-
Structural Alterations.	3	3	4	2
Utensils.	-	4	3	1
Other.	1	1	2	-

Of the 47 retail purveyors registered,6 were general shopkeepers selling only bottled, milk, as received from the producers, and 13 were vendors bringing in milk from outside areas.

Of the 48 milk producers, 9 were licenced to produce "Accredited milk" and 5 held "Tuberculin Tested" licences. Many of the remaining cowkeepers are regularly producing milk of accredited standard and have premises which, with little or no improvement except, perhaps the provision of steam sterilisation for utensils, would be approved for "accredited" production. The occupiers are very apathetic, however, to suggestions that application should be made for accredited licence, and it usually requires considerable discussion and argument, both by your officers and the veterinary surgeon, before a producer can be persuaded to take the plunge. Considering the financial benefits accruing to the producer of either "Accredited" or "Tuberculin Tested" milk by way of bonus this attitude is rather surprising and can only be explained by saying that many producers are convinced that application for the appropriate licence entails considerable prior financial outlay.

In addition to the inspections recorded above many visits were made to producers and retailers whose milk samples had been reported as unsatisfactory.

36 dairy farms are now supplied with water direct from the public mains, 10 of the 12 remaining being outside the present area of the town mains.

With a few exceptions, which have been dealt with informally, both producers' and retailers' premises have been maintained in satisfactory condition.

152 Milk Samples. were submitted for bacteriological etc. examination and 58 for examination for Tuberculosis with the following results:-

	No. of samples submitted	Satis-factory	Unsatisfactory		
			M.B. Only	B. Coli only	Both M.B. & B. Coli
T.T.	9	8		1	-
Non-designated.	65	58	2	3	2

			Unsatisfactory		
			½ hr test	Phosphatase	Both
Pasteurised	32	32	-	-	-
Sterilised	5	5	-	-	-
Heat-treated	41	37	2	2	-

All classes for Tuberculosis.	58	Negative. 49	Positive. 1

In 3 cases pigs died and in 5 other cases no pigs were available.

The 9 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk are in addition to samples obtained by the County Council who, as the Licensing Authority, obtain regular samples from licensed producers. The unsatisfactory sample in this class was, therefore, reported to them for necessary action.

The percentage of satisfactory samples of non-designated milks remained at the same figure as last year - 89.3%, a final result which I consider is very satisfactory when it is borne in mind that the standard set for a "satisfactory" report is the same as that for accredited milk. 5 of the unsatisfactory samples of non-designated milk were grade 2, that is only slightly below the standard required, the other two samples being placed in Grade 4.

As will be seen from the table on page 19, all the pasteurised and sterilised milk samples submitted were satisfactory, but there were 4 unsatisfactory samples of heat-treated milk, notification of the results were sent to the wholesale suppliers.

The number of samples submitted for examination for tuberculosis is an increase over that of last year. This was due to the arrangements made with Dr.Gillespie, of the Public Health Laboratory, Groby Road, Leicester, in 1948. 49 of the samples submitted during the year were negative, in three cases the guinea pigs died and in five cases there were no guinea pigs available: in the other case the result was positive. This case was reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and an investigation was made by a veterinary surgeon from the Ministry's Animal Health Division, a group sample of the milk from the 14 cows comprising the herd in question being taken and was certified as being non tuberculous.

The following licences were in operation during the year under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-1949.

9 Licences to retail T.T. milk, (including one to bottle).
1 Licence to relail Accredited milk.
1 Licence to retail Pasteurised milk.
There are no licensed pasteurising or heat-treatment plants in the area.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

Restrictions on the slaughter of livestock are still in operation and all trade slaughtering has again been carried out at the Regional slaughterhouse (the Coalville Co-operative Society's premises in Ravenstone Road). All home-produced meat for six local authority areas - Coalville Urban, Shepshed Urban, Ashby Urban, Ashby Wolds Urban, Ashby Rural, and Castle Donington Rural - is slaughtered at these premises and all the animals slaughtered there during the year were examined at, or immediately after, the time of slaughter.

As will be seen from the following tables there has been an increase of 3454 in the total number of animals slaughtered during the year. So far as is known the carcases of all the 15136 animals slaughtered, with 1 exception, were examined, work which has entailed 1030 inspections and a considerable portion of your inspectors' time. The results of these examinations, in terms of meat found to be unfit for human consumption, are also given in the tables.

No of Regional Slaughterhouses in area.	1.
No of animals slaughtered therein.	14218.
No of animals examined therein.	14218.
No of animals slaughtered elsewhere.	918.
No of animals examined elsewhere.	917.
No of inspections of meat at time of slaughter.	1030.
No of Knackers yards in the area.	NIL.

Details of carcases inspected, and condemnations,

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs & Sheep	Pigs	Total
Number killed (if known).	1788	918	980	9867	1583	15136
Number inspected	1788	918	980	9867	1582	15135
All diseases except Tuberculosis.						Total weight in lbs
Whole carcases condemned	3	10	16	16	12	9261
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	830	619	10	1735	62	24660
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	46.6%	68.5%	2.65%	17.9%	4.7%	
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcases condemned.	10	29	1	-	8	23270
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	416	463	-	-	77	27785
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	23.8%	53.6%	0.1%	-	5.4%	
Condemned for reasons other than disease.						
Whole carcases cond.	-	-	2	-	-	88
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	23	19	1	10	17	2726
Percentage of the number inspected parts of which condemned for other courses.	1.3%	2.1%	0.3%	0.1%	1.1%	

It will be seen that the total weight of meat condemned -87790 lbs - shows an increase of 13888lbs over the 1948 figure. This is accounted for by the larger number of animals killed.

In my 1948 report I made the statement that the percentages of animals affected withdisease was larger than the previous year, and that of cows affected with tuberculosis was 51% which was the highest figure since complete statistics became available. This years figure is even higher, being 53.6% These figures, if representative of the whole country must be of concern, not only to the Meat marketing industry, but also to milk production and dairying interests, although allowance must be made for animals brought into the slaughter-house as "Casualties".

I have again to criticise the accommodation available at the Regional Slaughterhouse. I dealt with this matter at some length in my 1945 report and drew attention to the difficulties which were being encountered not only from a trade standpoint but also from the Public Health aspect, particularly during the periods when almost the whole of the meat supply is home produced and the maximum amount of slaughtering takes place. these premises are, admittedly the most suitable that are available in the area, and as an emergency measure, there use for regional purposes could be tolerated. The present system of centralised slaughter has many advantages over the pervious one, where numbers of small privately-owned premises were in use, but if the centralised system is to continue indefinitely, great improvements will be necessary at the slaughterhouse. It was hoped that the responsible Government Depts. would have been able to make some official pronouncement of future policy for the livestock slaughtering and distribution industry before now, but this is not yet forthcoming. The absence of such a lead is undoubtedly delaying improvement not only as regards the premises but also in the matter of the meat transport system.

Included in the total number of animals slaughtered were 917 pigs killed by householders under licence from the Ministry of Food, an increase of 206 over last year. All except 1 of these was examined and 2 whole carcases were found to be so diseased as to be unfit for consumption, neither being affected with tuberculosis.

All condemned meat at the Regional slaughterhouse is retained by the Ministry of Food and dealt with through their own waste utilisation channels and this course is adopted, where the amount calls for it, in the case of unfit meat from householders' pigs.

In addition to the Regional slaughterhouse 10 privately owned slaughterhouses were licensed by your Authority during the year, these being used only for the slaughter of householders' pigs. All these premises were maintained in a satisfactory manner during 1949.

Under various legislation affecting food shops, stores, food preparation etc. premises the undermentioned inspections were carried out.

	Inspections.	Revisits.
Fried Fish shops.	39	13
Butchers.	68	12
Fishmongers.	6	2
Grocers.	182	26
Greengrocers and fruiterers.	22	5
Food manufacturers.	27	1
Restuarants and Canteens.	74	26
Confectioners.	6	1
Bakehouses.	26	1
Slaughterhouses.	42	-
Licensed premises..	36	22
Ice Cream premises.	113	-
Market Stalls.	54	-
Vehicles.	6	-
	701	109

37 informal notices were served as a result of these inspections, dealing with repairs, lackof cleanliness, sanitary accommodation, utensils, protection of foodstuffs etc., Statutory action being necessary in one case.

In 1948, Sanitary Inspectors from the whole of the districts in the County, together with officers of the County Health Dept. agreed on a "standard code of practice for the promotion of improvement in the hygienic manufacture, handling and distribution of all classes of foodstuffs" for the county, and this code was officially adopted by your Authority for application to your own district. The 'Code' deals with repair, decoration and cleansing of premises, lighting, ventilation sanitary conveniences, ablution facilities, refuse storage, equipment, protection of foodstuffs from contamination, food wrapping, storage of employees' clothing, provision of washable overalls, personal cleanliness of employees, infectious disease, and vermin; and copies have been issued to all employers and employees in food premises throughout the area. This has been and is being followed up where necessary, with talks and discussions with employers and employees at individual premises and with requests to occupiers to provide the amenities and improvements recommended in the 'code' and, generally speaking, these are meeting withread response.

During the above inspections, a considerable amount and variety of foods have been examined at shops and warehouses and a list of the food condemned during the year is given overleaf:-

309 tins of evaporated milk.
22 tins full cream milk.
5 tins of dried egg.
14 lbs liquid frozen egg.
73 tins of beans in tomatoe.
13 tins of baked beans.
3 tins of French beans.
4 tins of carrots.
40 tins of peas.
2 tins of mixed vegetables.
1 tin of meat and veg.stew.
1 tin of beetroot.
3 tins of soup.
2 tins of rhubarb.
1 jar of pickled onion.
5 jars of mint source.
48 tins and jars of various fruits.
12 jars of preserved ginger.
352 tins of tomatoes.
23 tins tomatoe juice and puree.
4 tins tomatoe jam.
24½ lbs. jam.
9 tins marmalade.
2 lbs. grapefruit marmalade.
2 lbs. martinean's syrup.
4 tins fruit juice & puree.
1 bottle coffee essence.
3 mixed puddings.
1 tin of snoek.
15 tins salmon.
7 tins crayfish.
1 tin of crab.
11 tins of crab paste.
16 tins of fish paste.
36 tins of pilchards.
1 tin of brislings.
1 tin of sardines.
3 tins of herrings.

7 stones of fresh herrings.
26 tins of fish cakes.
8 tins of boneless rabbit,
1 tin of sausage.
1 tin of spaghetti & sausage.
1021 jars of salad cream.
5½ lbs Whalemeat Savonay.
17½ lbs ham.
54 lbs.14 oz.bacon.
28 lbs sweetened fat.
15 lbs 9 oz. cooking fat.
2 lbs butter.
4 lbs and 1 box of cheese.
44¼ lbs meat pies.
36 lbs beaf sausage.
20 lbs sugar.
14 lbs sweets.
39 shell eggs.
2 cwt oranges.
30 lbs apples.
25 lbs figs.
200 stone bread.
20 stone prover.
1 packet all bran.
73 tins various meats.
603¾ lbs corned beef.
173 lbs imported bone in beef.
872 lbs English beef.
8 lbs Tongue. (English fresh)
84 lbs English mutton and lamb.

The last 5 items are in addition to the meat condemned at the slaughterhouse and shown on page 21.

The condemnation of foods of certain types and amounts is notified to the Salvage Division of the Ministry of Food, which deals with the foods thus condemned. This routine applies to all amounts of butter, cheese, lard, margarine, cooking fats, bacon and ham.

In all other cases, where it is not considered harmful, condemned food is utilised after cooking by local pig and poultry keepers. Unusable material is buried at the Councils' tips.

(c) Ice cream.

Under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938 there were registered at the close of the year 37 premises for the sale of ice cream and 1 for its manufacture.

The "Standard code of practice" for these premises, adopted by your Authority in 1947, has been in operation throughout the year and has formed the basis on which all new applicants for registration have been dealt with. The 'code' also laid down the official requirements for the construction of vehicles used for the sale of ice cream, for the equipment to be carried and for the observance of hygienic practices by the vendors.

The manufacture of ice-cream at the only manufactory in the area was discontinued during the first half of the year: the premises being now used solely as a storage depot for the local distribution of ice-cream manufactured at the two larger factories in other parts of the Country owned by the same proprietors. This manufactory/depot has been maintained in a satisfactory condition throughout the year.

43 samples of ice cream were submitted for examination during the year to the County Laboratory and 12 samples to the Public Health Laboratory, Groby Road. 35 of these were placed in provisional Grade 1 (Methylene Blue Test), 18 in Grade II 1 in Grade III and 1 in Grade 1V. Of the 35 Grade 1 samples : 5 were loose and 30 prepacked; of the 18 grade II 4 were loose and 14 prepacked; the Grade III sample was prepacked; the Grade 1V sample was loose. Three of the samples were manufactured within the area one prepacked and two loose, all being grade 1. Three samples were submitted for examination for Fat content only.

In all cases of sub-standard samples manufactured in outside areas, notification is sent to the Inspector concerned for any action he may wish to take.

(d) Adulteration etc.

Your authofity is not responsible for this work, the food adulteration clauses being administered by the County Council.

(e) Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

No outbreaks of food poisoning came to out notice during the year, although in one instance, steps had to be taken to exclude a contact of a suspected case of typhoid fever from her work in the kitchen of a school canteen. The steps taken proved to be unnecessary as the suspicions were not confirmed.

National Assistance Act, 1948. Section 47.

No action was necessary during the year.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Tables showing the total notifications after correction under age groups, and the deaths from infectious diseases.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Age	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Acute. Polio-myelitis		Acute Polioence-phalitis.		Measles		Diphtheria.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-			4	6	1				12	15		
1-	2	3	18	15	4			1	26	20		
3-	11	6	20	22	1				23	20		
5-	10	16	6	21	1		2		17	22		
10-	2	3	1						2			1
15-	1								2	2		
25+			1						1	3		
Total	26	28	50	64	7		2	1	83	72		1
	54		114		7		3		155		1	

Age	Acute pneumonia.		Dysentery.		Small pox.		Ac.Enceph. leth.		Enteric or typhoid.		Paratyphoid.		Erysipelas.		Cerebro-spinal Fever		Puerperal pyrexia	Oph Neo
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	F	M F
0-	9	5													1			
5-	2	1																
15-	7	3											2	1			1	
45-	6	4											3	2				
65+	4	4																
Total	28	17											5	3	1		1	
	45												8		1		1	

DEATHS.

	Total	Under 1 year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+
Scarlet Fever.													
Diptheria.	1							1					
Pneumonia.	11	5								1		1	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.													
Whooping Cough.													
Measles.													

Diptheria.

During the year, one case of this disease was notified The patient had not been immunised and died in hospital, thus giving us the first death from diptheria in the district since 1943.

As you are aware, responsibility for diptheria immunisation administration now rests with the County Council, to whose Medical Officer I am indepted for supplying a return of the numbers immunised during the year, and these are given below. In my last report, I referred to the new arrangements, and remarked that it remained to be seen what effect they would have on the progress of this important work. I therefore append a short table for purposes of comparison.

Year	-4	5-14	Total.	Boosters.
1945	356	12	368	0
1946	443	16	459	4
1947	469	9	478	16
1948	377	9	386	96
1949	412	9	421	138

It will be seen that 1949 bears reasonably fair comparison with previous years as regards primary immunisation, whilst for reinforcing injections, there is considerable improvement, although it is only during the last couple of years that the latter has been concentrated upon more seriously. The conclusion appears to be that progress has not been retarded so far as this area is concerned, and that definite advance has been made as regards "boosters". One anticipates progress in both directions, and once more parents are reminded of the importance of their children being given the benefit of this preventive treatment.

Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis, and all deaths from the disease during the year:

Age	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1								
1 - 5		1	1				1	
5 - 15			2					
15 - 25	2	4	1	1	2			
25 - 35	2	2				3		
35 - 45	1	1			2	1		
45 - 55	3	2			2			
55 - 65	2				3			
65 +					1			
TOTAL	10	10	4	1	10	4	1	

Table showing causes of Deaths,
and sex distribution of Deaths in 1949

CAUSE OF DEATH	Total	M	F
All causes.	285	156	129
Typhoid and Para.Fevers.			
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.			
Scarlet Fever.			
Whooping Cough.			
Diphtheria.	1		1
Tuberculosis of Resp System.	14	10	4
Other forms of tuberculosis.	1	1	
Syphilitic Diseases.	1	1	
Influenza.	1		1
Measles.			
Acute Inf.Encephalitis.	1	1	
Acute Polio-myelitis.			
Cancer of buccal cavity, oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	5	2	3
Cancer of Stomach and duodenum.	4	3	1
Cancer of the Breast.	4		4
Cancer of all other sites.	24	18	6
Diabetes.	2	1	1
Intracranial vascular lesions.	40	15	25
Heart disease.	74	42	32
Other diseases of Circulatory system.	14	7	7
Bronchitis.	15	9	6
Pneumonia.	11	5	6
Other Respiratory diseases.	6	4	2
Ulcer of the Stomach or duodenum.	5	4	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years.	1	1	
Appendicitis.			
Other digestive diseases.	4	2	2
Nephritis.	6	4	2
Puerperal and post-abortion Sepsis.			
Other Maternal causes.	1		1
Premature birth.	6	3	3
Congenital malformations, Birth injuries etc.	8	4	4
Suicide.	2	1	1
Road traffic accidents.	2	2	
Other violent causes.	2	2	
All other causes.	30	14	16

Infantile Mortality.

During 1949, 18 deaths occured amongst infants under 1 year. This gives a rate of 39 per 1000 live births registered, compared with 33 for 1948, 60 for 1947, and 42 for 1946, whilst the rate for the whole country is 32. 6 of the deaths were due to prematurity, and 8 to congenital malformations, and diseases peculiar to the first year of life, so that only 4 were due to diseases not associated with infancy. The increase in the rate as compared with last year is entirely due to the first two factors, and emphasis is once more laid on the importance of efficient ante-natal care, followed by supervision during the first months of life. All prospective mothers and mothers should take full advantage of the facilities available to them in the way of ante-natal care and infant welfare services, and only when this is accomplished can we look for continued improvement. Much therefore depends upon the individuals themselves.

Birth rate, Death rate, and Analysis of Mortality during 1949

	Rate per 1000 total pop.		Annual Death Rate per 1000 pop.										Rate per 1000 live Births.	
	LIVE BIRTHS	STILL BIRTHS	ALL CAUSES	ENTERIC FEVER	SMALL POX	MEASLES.	SCARLET FEVER	WHOOPING COUGH	DIPHTHERIA	INFLUENZA	ACUTE POLIO.	PNEUMONIA	ENTERITIS UNDER 2 YRS.	TOTAL DEATHS UNDER 1 YR.
England & Wales	16.7	.39	11.7	.00	.00	.00	.00	.01	.00	.15	.01	.51	3.0	32
Coalville U.D. 1949	18.1	.47	11.1	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.04	.04	.00	.43	2.1	39
Coalville U.D. 1948	19.1	.35	9.7	.00	.00	.00	.00	.07	.00	.00	.00	.35	0.0	33

To make the death rate for Coalville strictly comparable with the rest of the country, the figure given (11.1) should be multiplied by 1.11, the corrected death rate thus being 12.3